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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended): A manual cleaning composition for hard surfaces comprising a substantially water-free active substance containing at least one surfactant and at least one liquid polymeric carrier encapsulated in a water-soluble or water-dispersible capsule, wherein the active substance:

(i) contains the liquid polymeric carrier in a quantity of less than 25% by weight;

(ii) ~~contains at least one unbranched or branched, acyclic or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated alcohol containing 1 to 10 carbon atoms and one or two primary, secondary or tertiary hydroxy groups and a carbon chain optionally containing one or more oxygen atoms or~~

~~(iii) is optionally free of glycerol; and~~

(iii) contains:

a) at least one anionic surfactant of formula (I):

$R^1(-CHR^2-CH_2O)_x-OSO_3M$ (I)

or

b) at least one anionic surfactant of formula II:

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R³-OSO₃M

(II)

in which formulae I and II R¹ and R³ independently of one another represent aliphatic, linear and/or branched C₆₋₂₂ alkyl groups and/or aromatic, optionally C₁₋₁₈-alkyl-substituted hydrocarbon radicals, R² stands for hydrogen and/or one or more C₁₋₄ alkyl groups, x is a number of 0.1 to 6, and M stands for metal cations or ammonium ions, or

c) at least one alkyl ether sulfate and at least one fatty alcohol polyglycol ether.

19. (previously presented): The manual cleaning composition of claim 18, wherein the active substance contains at least one anionic or nonionic surfactant.

20. (previously presented): The manual cleaning composition of claim 18, wherein the active substance contains at least one anionic and at least one nonionic surfactant.

21. (canceled)

22. (previously presented): The manual cleaning composition of claim 18, wherein the active substance contains at least one fatty alcohol polyglycol ether and/or at least one alkyl polyglycoside.

23. (canceled)

24. (previously presented): The manual cleaning composition of claim 18, wherein the liquid polymeric carrier comprises one or more polyethylene glycols.

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25. (previously presented): The manual cleaning composition of claim 18, wherein the active substance contains at least one unbranched, acyclic, saturated primary C₁₋₈ monoalcohol, one unbranched, acyclic saturated C₂₋₆ alkylene glycol and/or one unbranched, acyclic saturated C₂₋₆ alkylene glycol mono-C₁₋₈-alkyl ether.

26. (previously presented): The manual cleaning composition of claim 18, wherein the active substance contains one or more amphoteric surfactants or sequestering agents.

27. (previously presented): The manual cleaning composition of claim 18, wherein the capsule comprises at least one natural or synthetic polymer.

28. (previously presented): The manual cleaning composition of claim 18, wherein the capsule comprises gelatine.

29. (previously presented): The manual cleaning composition of claim 18, wherein the capsule has a volume of 0.1 to 30 ml.

30. (previously presented): A process for the manual cleaning of a hard surface with a water-based cleaning liquor, comprising the steps of forming a cleaning liquor by dissolving or dispersing the composition of claim 18 in an aqueous medium, and applying the cleaning liquor manually to the hard surface to effect cleaning thereof.

31. (previously presented): A system comprising the composition of claim 18 and at least one other different encapsulated active

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substance.

32. (canceled)

33. (currently amended): A manual cleaning composition for hard surfaces comprising an active substance containing 10% to 90% by weight of at least one surfactant, 5% to 35% by weight of at least one liquid polymeric carrier, and less than about 20% by weight of free water, said active substance being encapsulated in a water-soluble or water-dispersible gelatinous capsule, wherein the active substance: (i) contains 5% to 40% by weight of at least one unbranched or branched, acyclic or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated alcohol containing 1 to 10 carbon atoms and one or two primary, secondary or tertiary hydroxy groups and a carbon chain optionally containing one or more oxygen atoms -O-; or (ii) is free of glycerol, and wherein the at least one surfactant comprises:

a) at least one anionic surfactant of formula (I):



or

b) at least one anionic surfactant of formula II:



in which R¹ and R³ independently of one another represent aliphatic, linear and/or branched C₆₋₂₂ alkyl groups and/or aromatic, optionally C₁₋₁₈-alkyl-substituted hydrocarbon radicals, R² stands for hydrogen and/or one or more C₁₋₄ alkyl groups, x is a number of 0.1 to 6, and

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M stands for metal cations or ammonium ions.